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# LA GRANJA

(IRRIGATED FARM)

ELTWEED POMEROY

GROUNDS PLANNED FOR PLANTING WITH PLANTS WHICH GROW IN THE

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

DONNA, TEXAS

APR 29 1916

SPECIALTIES:

VINIFERA GRAPES  
SOUTH CHINA PEACHES  
ORCHID CANNAS  
MEXICAN TUBE-ROSES  
BANANA PLANTS  
AMARYLLIS  
CRINUMS

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JUL 29 1920

U. S. Department of Agriculture

## CIRCULAR NO. 8. FRUIT TREES

October 1, 1913

Dear Sir:

Many fruits will grow here but right varieties must be obtained or they will not fruit. I strongly advise against buying from northern nurseries. They do not know our conditions and cannot supply varieties suitable for this soil and climate. Buy from local or Florida or California nurseries.

### PEACHES

Northern peaches such as the Elberta, Crawford, Mamie Ross, even though doing well in central Texas, will not fruit here. It is money thrown away to plant them. Only peaches of the South China, Spanish or Oriental blood will do well here and of these, the South China type is the best. These peaches are not as large as the Elberta, though the Jewel approaches the Elberta's size, but their flavor is fine, color beautiful and shipping qualities good. I put first as the most valuable of these peaches, the

**Jewel**—Medium to large, rounded to oblong, highly colored, flesh yellow but red about pit, juicy, melting, sweet, freestone, ripens end of May, a good shipper, tree vigorous and healthy. I have two acres in peaches and nearly all Jewel.

**Bidwell's Early**—Shape, roundish, oblong with short recurved point, size medium, skin, creamy white washed with carmine, flesh fine-grained, melting, juicy, sweet with slight almond flavor, clingstone, ripens early in June.

**Angel**—Large, rounded, slightly pointed, yellow washed with red, handsome, flesh, white, sweet, melting, juicy, sub-acid of exquisite flavor lacking in bitter almond flavor, freestone. Ripens June 20th to 30th. Tree bears while very young.

**Dorothy N**—A seedling of Angel which it closely resembles but ripens July 5th to 15th.

**Victoria**—Very large, round, oblong, highly colored yellow and dark red, juicy, sweet and of excellent flavor, freestone, valuable for cooking and canning, ripens Aug. 5th to 10th.

**Red Ceylon**—A good sized fruit of dull, green color, flesh blood-red, freestone, flavor too acid to eat out of hand but fine for cooking. Tree a heavy and annual bearer.

For commercial planting, I advise the Jewel; for home planting I advise some of each of above varieties. I can get more, but these give a long ripening period. The only one not in this series is the Red Ceylon, which is so fine for cooking, it is included.

Prices—25c each, \$2.40 per dozen, \$18 per 100.

**New Peach, Luttichau**—Size, large, oval; color, white washed with red; skin, thin, tough; flesh, solid, juicy; flavor, sweet; a splendid shipper; ripens May 25 to June 10; price 40c each, \$4.00 per dozen.

### PLUMS

Some fine plums fruited this past year but we are not as certain on plums as we are on peaches but it looks as if many varieties would be successful.

**Advance**—Ripens May 20-30. Very large, firm, bright red; tree, robust. A Texas seedling eclipsing all early plums.

**Gonales**—Tree strong and very productive, fruit very large, red, good flavor, good shipper, ripens June 10th to 20th.

**Excelsior**—Probably the best all round plum for commercial planting here, tree strong and rapid grower, fruit 1½ inches in diameter, deep wine-red with bluish bloom, skin firm, flesh yellowish, quality fine and good shipper, ripens about July 1st.

Price—30c each, \$3.00 per dozen, \$18.00 per 100.

**Santa Rosa Plum**—One of the latest of Burbank's creations; plum a deep purplish crimson, each fruit averaging 6 inches in circumference, flesh purple shading to scarlet and amber at stone which is small, rich fragrant and delicious; good shipper. The trees in my grounds have grown splendidly.

Price—50c each, \$5.50 per dozen.

### PLUMCOT

A Burbank creation and a cross between the plum and apricot. My trees are doing well but have not fruited. Large fruit, brilliant red flesh, delicious sub-acid flavor, skin deep velvety purple. Worth experimenting with.

Price—50c each, \$5.50 per dozen.

### APRICOTS

This is another unproven but probably successful fruit. My trees planted last spring are doing well but have not fruited.

Price—50c each, \$5.50 per dozen.

### NECTARINE

This is simply a peach with a smooth skin and as it has adapted itself to all over California, there is no reason why it should not be grown here.

Price—50c each, \$5.50 per dozen.

### PEARS

Pears are still doubtful with the chances in favor of the Chinese pears and strongly against the Bartlett and that class.

**Keiffer**—Fruit large, yellow, very juicy, coarse grained but sweet. Ripens in September.

**Garber**—Resembles Keiffer but ripens later.

**Le Conte**—Same type but ripens still later.

Price—30c each, \$3.00 per dozen, \$18.00 per 100.

**Japan Sand Pear**—This pear is said to be blight proof and the blight has been the pear's enemy all over Texas. Fruit large round and juicy. I can get a few of these trees and would like to have them tried.

Price—50c each, \$5.50 per dozen.

### QUINCES

The fruiting of the quince here is still uncertain; it grows well and is so fine for cooking; a few should be tried.



**Orange**—Largest, golden yellow fruit of firm flesh and excellent flavor.

**Price**—30c each, \$3.00 per dozen.

### APPLES

The outlook for apples has been so poor that I have even advised against experiments but my experiment, after sulking two years, is now growing well and perhaps we can grow some summer apples. For those who would like to try a few, I will get them the **Jennings** and the **Red Astrachan** which are the most successful, for 30c each.

### CHERRIES

Are even more doubtful than apples and I do not even advise trying but will get these trees at 35c each.

### PRUNES

My prunes have done so poorly that I can only conclude they are a variety of plum needing a more northern climate. If you want some, 50c each.

### JAPANESE PERSIMMONS

In no fruit have I been so disappointed here as in this. I planted 80 three years ago and they do not grow well. My Florida correspondents write that some experiments are approaching completion which may promise better results. If you want to try, 35c each.

### CITRUS FRUITS

Citrus fruits can be a success when cared for as they are in Florida and California. This means the growing of windbreaks if necessary every 300 feet, the banking of the trees early in the season, the thorough wrapping up of young trees the first winter and the use of smudge pots in large quantities, every winter after. This makes the commercial planting and growing to fruiting, expensive but then a citrus grove is very profitable. I do not advise the commercial planting of citrus fruit unless this is carefully studied, its expenses figured and definitely determined on. The planting of a few trees around your home where you can, if necessary, cover them with canvass and put a lantern under each one on very cold nights, is all right if you will do it. Up the Valley, the temperature is in winter from 2 to 6 degrees lower than it is around Brownsville, San Benito and Harlingen, making citrus planting less risky nearer the Gulf.

### ORANGES

The Satsuma orange grafted on Trifoliata stock which grows well around Houston, will not grow well here save in very exceptional soil; **IT SHOULD NOT BE PLANTED**. All citrus should be on sour stock. I can get you many varieties but have boiled down the list.

**Washington Navel**—The most largely grown orange in California. Fruit large to very large, somewhat oval, flesh meaty, tender, sweet and highly flavored. It has fruited here of fine flavor; seedless.

**Pineapple**—The most largely planted orange in Florida. Fruit medium to large, peel thin but tough, heavy, juicy and of excellent flavor. It has fruited here of fine flavor.

**Dugat**—Originated at Beeville, Texas, and the most hardy of the round oranges. It makes a vigorous growth, is prolific and bears early and fruit is of fine flavor.

**Valencia Late**—Another Florida favorite, fruit of good size, juicy and tender. Ripens in May or June but will hang on trees till August or September, making it very desirable for home orchards.

**Parson Brown**—Size medium, peel smooth, texture fine, quality good. Keeps well and ships well. One of best of early varieties, ripens in October.

**Tangerine**—Fruit, flat small to medium, skin separates freely from flesh, juicy, aromatic, rich, of a deep red color, ripens December to January.

**Price**—70c each, \$7.80 per dozen. Special price by hundred.

**Lue Gim Gong**—A new and very fine orange. Size, large; skin, thin; color, deep orange red; flesh, deep orange; juice sacks large, juice abundant; flavor a rich blending of sweet and sub-acid; fine shipper and good keeper. Tree hardy and resistant to cold. Can be marketed in August, September and October.

**Price**—\$1.25 per tree.

### POMELO OR GRAPE FRUIT

**Duncan**—One of the hardiest varieties. Fruit large size, peel tough and smooth, quality of the best; strong grower; prolific bearer. Fruit will hang on trees in good condition till late spring or early summer.

**Marsh Seedless**—The most popular grape fruit grown, large size fruit. Heavy, juicy and of fine flavor.

**Price**—80c each, \$9 per dozen.

### LEMONS

**Kenedy**—Originated on the Kenedy ranch near Sarita in this Valley. Fruit good size, almost seedless, thin rind, solid flesh. Tree considered hardy.

**Ponderosa**—An exceptionally large lemon; often single fruit weighs 2 to 2½ pounds, very juicy and of good quality, bears very young and considered hardy. Juice not as strongly acid as other lemons.

**Price**—70c each, \$7.80 per dozen.

### KUMQUATS

The smallest of citrus family as it is hardly more than a shrub and one of the hardiest; its oblong fruit is very handsome and delicious. I advise planting a few.

**Price**—70c each, \$7.80 per dozen.

### FIGS

Figs can be made a success commercially if preserved but everyone should plant some figs for home use as they grow easily, fruit abundantly and even if killed to the ground every year, still bear the same year. They are the only fruit tree bearing on the same year's growth. Everyone has planted Magnolia figs; they are probably the best for preserving but not nearly as delicious to eat as other varieties. I advise an assortment.

**Magnolia**—Fruit of large size, light colored, handsome, vigorous grower, prolific, excellent for canning.

**Green Ischia**—Fruit medium size, long, pulp rosy red, soft, melting, quality rich, sweet, a strong grower.

**Brown Turkey**—Fruit large, pear shaped, color copper brown, flesh white or amber solid and excellent quality.

**Brunswick**—Fruit large, pear-shaped, dark brown, pulp thick, soft and highly flavored.

**Celestial**—Fruit small, violet colored, flesh rose colored, firm, juicy and very sweet.

**Price**—25c each, \$2.40 per dozen, \$18.00 per 100.

**Smyrna Fig**—The dried fig of commerce can be grown and fruited here but it must be pollinated by the fig wasp with pollen from the Capri or wild fig and



about 1 Capri fig should be planted to 25 of the Smyrna fig trees. Calimyrna or Smyrna Figs, 50c each, \$5.00 per dozen. Capri or wild fig, 75c each.

### OLIVES

My olives have grown well, some fruited for two years near Kingsville; it seems to me the olive should do well here. It is a very handsome tree.

**Mission**—The old standard grown by the Spanish fathers. Fruit medium to large; good for pickling or ripe for making oil. As an avenue tree it surpasses all others. Ripens late in October.

Price—\$1.25 each, \$12.50 per dozen.

### GUAVAS

This is a little known fruit growing into an attractive shrub and some varieties are delicious to eat raw, most are used for jellies of delicious flavor.

**Cattley**—This is the hardiest and if frozen down will produce fruit on the same year's growth; its fruit is about an inch in diameter and mainly valuable for jellies and preserves.

**Perico**—A sub-acid sort of very large size, flesh thick and meaty, color pink, flavor the best, fine for dessert or canning. Needs same care as citrus trees.

**Guinnense**—The Guinea guava, fruit very sweet, large and meaty, fine for dessert, sweet pickle or canning. Needs same care as citrus trees.

Price—35c each, \$3.50 per dozen.

### FEIJOA SELLOWIANA

This is said to be the most valuable fruit introduction since the Navel orange was brought from Brazil. It is related to the guava but is entirely hardy here. It is a beautiful shrub or small tree growing about 10 feet high with leaves whitish on one side. Mine have done well. Its fruit is about the size of a hen's egg, of greenish color and rough skin; it is said to have the combined flavor of the banana, pineapple and raspberry and will keep for weeks.

Price—90c each, \$10.00 per dozen.

### MANGO

This is another tropical fruit of great deliciousness which grows around Matamoros in its poorer varieties and if protected for several winters, it ought to stand our frosts and grow fruit well here. There is the same difference with grafted mangoes and seedlings as with the Avocado and also the same difference in price. Seedlings, 50c each, grafted \$2.50 each.

### THE JUJUBE OR ORIENTAL DATE

This is not a palm at all but its botanical name is *Zizyphus Vulgaris*. It contains as much promise as any new fruit. It is a handsome tree with small leaves and the second year, trees were loaded with fruit which, when ripe, resemble apples in taste and olives in size and shape. When preserved in sugar, they equal imported dates. My trees planted last spring are doing well. I can get either the Japanese or the Chinese strain at \$1.50 each, \$15.00 per dozen. Seedlings, 12 to 18 inches, 50c each, \$5 per dozen.

### CUSTARD APPLE

**Anona Reticulata**—A small tree needing about the same protection as the orange and bearing two crops yearly of a large, rough, sub-acid, delicious fruit.

Price—50c each, \$5.00 per dozen.

### THE PAPAYA OR MELON TREE

**Carica Papaya**—A very beautiful, rapid growing tree with large palmate leaves needing a little protection from hard frosts and bearing large melons at the joints of its leaves. It is dioecious and only the female tree bears, so in planting, more than one tree had better be planted.

Price—60c each, \$6.00 per dozen.

I have these growing and expect to have seed from the ripening fruit and if so, it will be sold at 25c a packet and they are very easy to raise.

### THE WHITE SAPOTA

**Casimiroa Edulis**—A very promising new fruit tree from Mexico, hardier than most tropical trees. The fruit is yellow of the size of a small orange with a pulp somewhat like a peach in flavor.

Price—75c each, \$7.50 per dozen.

### THE PINEAPPLE

**Ananas Sativus**—With partial shade in summer and care not to get too wet, the pineapple can be grown here. I can get Red Spanish, the commercial variety for 25c each, \$2.50 per dozen.

**Smooth Cayenne**—The only sort without spines and good for home use because it bears all through the year.

Price—40c each, \$4.00 per dozen.

### AVOCADO AGUACATE OR ALLIGATOR PEAR

The fruit of this tree is said to be the only fruit replacing meat and it is certain that it is one of the most valuable fruits native to this continent. Full grown trees stand much heavy frosts of the high lands of Mexico but young trees will require protection for several years. The budded or inarched trees are as much superior to the seedlings as a fine apple is to a crab apple. I can get you the seedlings for 50c, but advise the grafted at \$2.50 each.

### LOQUATS

A handsome, quick growing small tree and is not injured by our frost, an evergreen. Its fruit is the size of a medium plum, oblong, bright yellow, sub-acid good for eating raw but better for cooking and making a jelly. Fruit ripens in February and March.

Price—35c each, \$3.50 per dozen.

### POMEGRANATES

Those grow well here even if occasionally killed back slightly in winter and the fruit ripening in August and September, is very refreshing. It grows more a large shrub than a tree and can be planted as a hedge. There is a variety whose flowers are more handsome than the fruit and this is put in the flower list.

Price—40c each, \$4.00 per dozen.

### PECANS

Plant near a ditch or where they will get much water.

My trees did little till so planted but now are growing finely and I believe your ditch banks can thus be made profitable and at small expense as the trees should, when thus in single row, be planted 30 to 40 feet apart. The Gulf Coast varieties should be planted here and not the interior Texas varieties.

**Stuart**—Nuts large or very large, oblong; shell of good cracking quality; kernel, full, plump, bright-colored, sweet; heavy bearer; tree strong grower.



**Frotscher**—Large oblong nut; shell thin; kernel large; tree bears heavily and vigorous.

**Schley**—Nut medium to large, oblong; shell thin, kernel plump; flavor rich and nutty.

Price—\$1.00 each, \$10.80 per dozen, \$85.00 per 100. Seedlings, \$3.00 per dozen, \$18.00 per 100. In seedlings, quality not guaranteed.

### ENGLISH WALNUTS

These should be planted near a ditch like the pecan as their long tap root needs to go down to water. They are better grafted on the California black walnut root.

**Franquette**—Nut large, an elongated oval, kernel full sweet and of a rich nutty flavor; nuts command highest market price.

Price—On Black Walnut roots, \$2.50 each, \$27.00 per dozen. On own roots, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen.

### BLACK WALNUTS

These grow well and the nuts are sweet but have small sale.

Price—50c each, \$5.00 per dozen.

### JAPAN WALNUTS

These have a low, spreading growth and while the shells are thick, the meat is very sweet. The tree is handsome.

Price—40c each, \$4.00 per doz.

### ALMOND

The almond is similar in growth to the peach; mine have grown well, though they have not yet fruited.

**Medina**—A native Texas seedling, soft-shelled, fine flavored and heavy bearer.

**Sultana**—Large kernels, soft shell, tree strong, upright grower.

Price—40c each, \$4.00 per dozen.

### BERRIES

No farm should be without its berry patch. Certain varieties fruit enormously here.

**Blackberry Dallas**—The standard Texas berry, large, fine quality, productive early to mid-season.

Price—50c per dozen, \$3.00 per 100.

**Dewberry, Austin-Mays**—Vines at Mercedes were black with fruit last May. Robust vine, large fruit and very prolific. Not a good shipper.

Price—50c per dozen, \$3.00 per 100.

**Haup Berry**—A cross between the dewberry and blackberry with wonderfully fine fruit and very productive.

Price—20c each, \$1.50 per dozen, \$6.00 per 100.

**Loganberry**—A cross between the blackberry and raspberry and wonderfully fine fruit. Not fully tried out here but promising.

Price—Rooted tips, 15c each, \$1.00 per dozen.

**Himalaya Berry**—An enormous growing and productive blackberry from India. Not fully tried out here but promising.

Price—Rooted tips, 20c each, \$1.50 per dozen.

### PHENOMINAL AND MAMMOTH BLACKBERRIES

Same price as Himalaya Berries.

### ASPARAGUS

This, in my opinion, can be made a very profitable crop but every home should have a small bed.

**Palmetto**—2 year plants, 50c per dozen, \$3.00 per 100.

### RHUBARB

If planted in December, you can make good cuttings in February and March and if unprotected from summer sun, it may die during summer.

Price—25c each, \$1.50 per dozen.

**NOTE**—The plants named in these circulars are especially suited to the country from Corpus Christi South—many will not do well much north of Corpus. Most of them have been tried out in the Rio Grande Country and those which have not, are so noted or they have been thoroughly tried out in Florida or California. Any plant wanted obtained.

**TIME FOR ORDERS**—As these plants are selected from the four largest and best nurseries in Florida and California, with some from Texas nurseries and other states, it will take some time to get the orders in. Most of them should be planted in February; hence I want the orders sent me as far as possible, by December 1st.

**TERMS**—As I pay cash for everything thus enabling me to make very low prices. I want half cash with order and half on delivery of plants.

**PACKINGS**—For ordinary Valley shipments which reach in one or two days at most, I make no charge for packings. Where goods are to be delivered by freight or need extra packing, I charge cost.

**DELIVERY**—I deliver goods f. o. b. Donna, the receiver pays the freight or express unless specially arranged otherwise.

**RESPONSIBILITY**—Ceases absolutely, as far as the transportation is considered, with the signing of the freight or express receipt. If the railroad or express company damages the goods by delay or bad handling, that is not my fault and redress should be had from the party at fault.

As far as the quality of the goods is concerned, it ceases absolutely five days after they have been received. You have the privilege of returning any goods which are not up to grade within five days. I guarantee to deliver livable plants; if livable plants are not received, let me know and I will at once make it satisfactory by either sending others or refunding the money. But I do not guarantee that plants will live. The making of them to live is entirely beyond my control and is up to you. If you receive livable plants and they do not live, it is your loss because something has been done or left undone which should have been done. Do not expect everything to live. It is a good planter who gets 80 to 90 per cent of his plants to live.

**DISCLAIMER**—I buy from none but the best and most responsible houses in California, Florida and elsewhere and great care is exercised to have all seeds, bulbs, plants, etc., true to name, but I cannot give any warranty as to description, quality, productiveness or be responsible for the crop.

Yours to make the Valley Beautiful,

**ELTWEED POMEROY,**  
La Granja Farm, Donna, Texas.